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Europa Clipper Mission: Overview



Topics

- Mission Recap
- Mission Challenges
- Mission Status
- Selected Updates
- Future Work

The Mission

Destination: Europa, Moon of Jupiter

Launch Date: June, 2023
Travel Time: ~3 or ~6 years

Instruments: 9

Mass: ~4600 kg (~2500 kg unfueled)

Purpose: Assess the potential habitability

The Target

Name: Europa

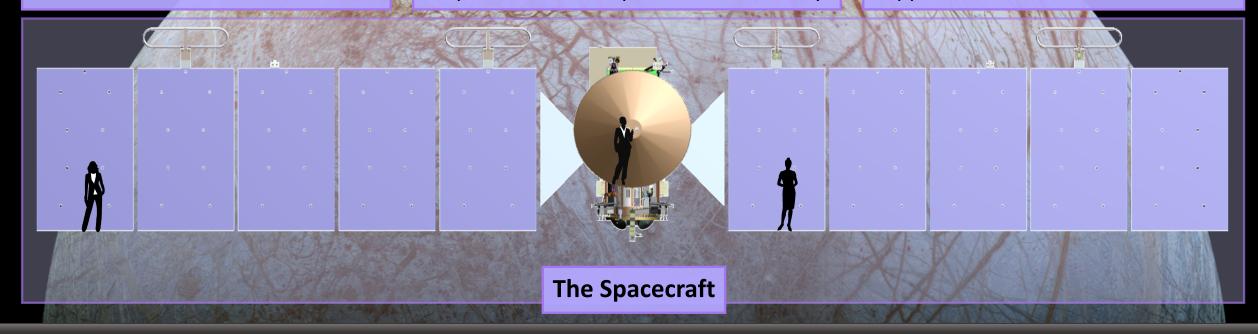
Location: Orbiting Jupiter

Distance: ~5 – 5.5 AU

Size: slightly smaller than Earth's

Moon

Supports Life: unknown







WHY

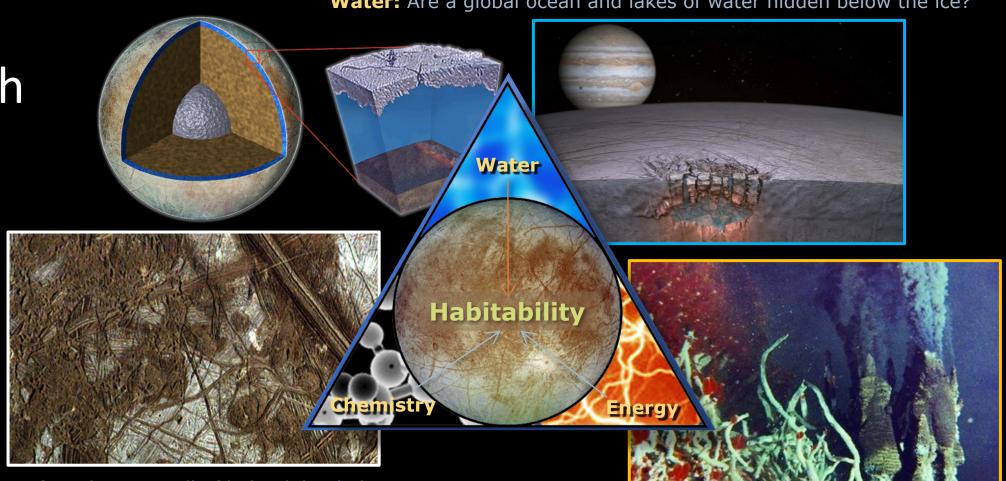


Why Investigate Europa?



Water: Are a global ocean and lakes of water hidden below the ice?

The Search for Life



Chemistry: Do red surface deposits tell of habitability below?

Energy: Can chemical disequilibrium provide energy for life?





HOW



The Europa Clipper Instruments



Payload specifically designed to assess habitability

PIMS

Faraday Cups plasma environment

MASPEX

Mass Spectrometer sniffing atmospheric composition

SUDA

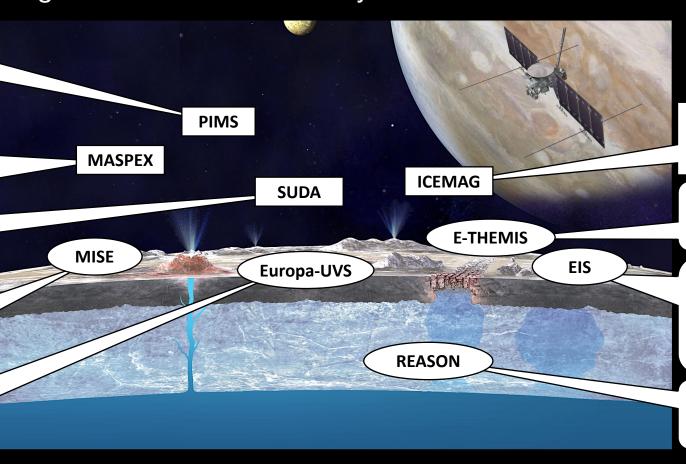
Dust Analyzer surface & plume composition

MISE

IR Spectrometer surface chemical fingerprints

Europa-UVS

UV Spectrograph
surface & plume/atmosphere
composition



In Situ

Remote Sensing

ICEMAG

Magnetometer sensing ocean properties

E-THEMIS

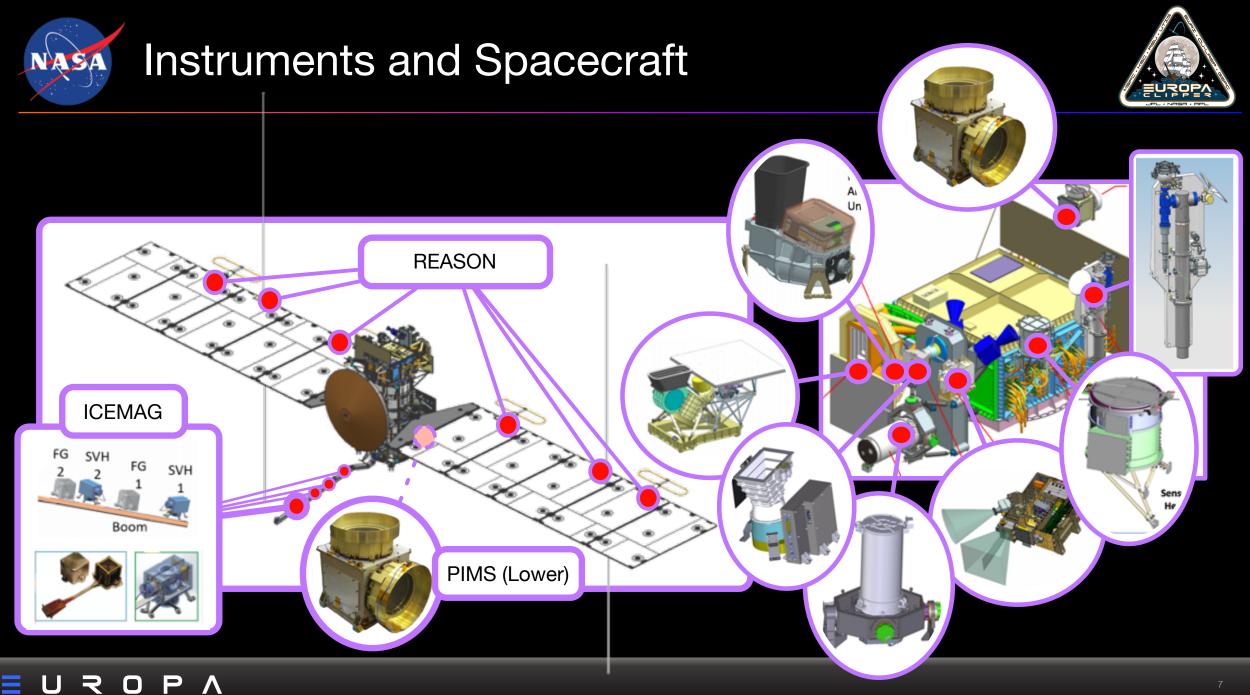
Thermal Imager searching for hot spots

EIS

Narrow-Angle Camera + Wide-Angle Camera mapping alien landscape in 3D & color

REASON

Ice-Penetrating Radar plumbing the ice shell





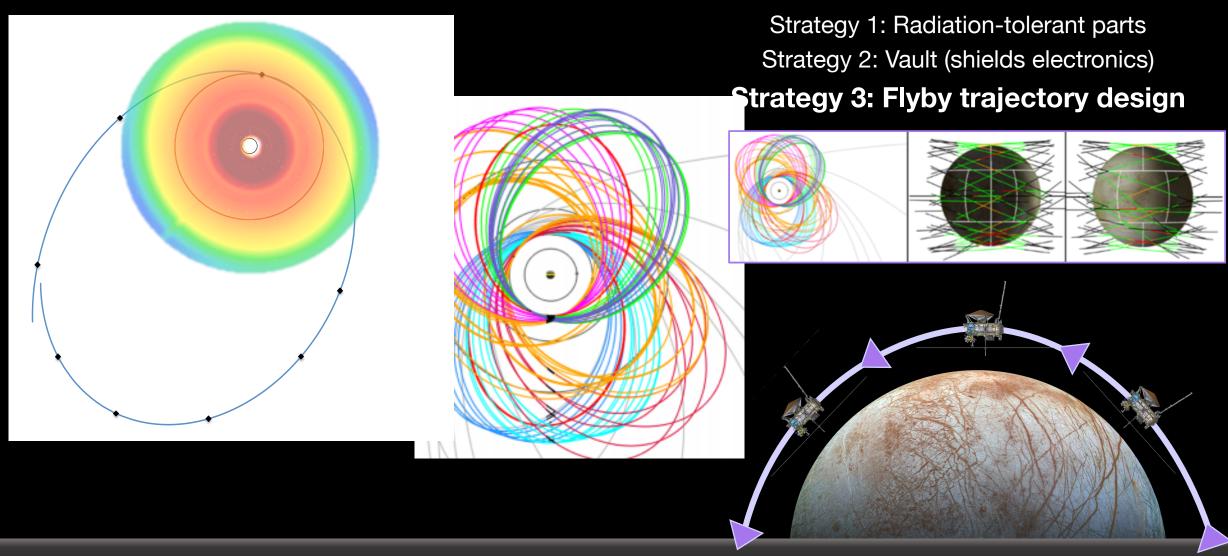


CHALLENGES



Challenge: Radiation







Challenge: Thermal Extremes & Multiple LVs







0.65 AU

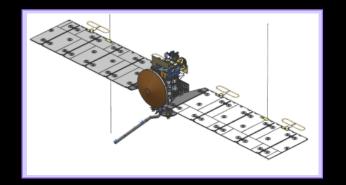


1.0 AU

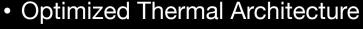


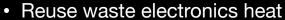
5.6 AU

- Hot: possible inner cruise
- Cold: Jupiter + 9-hour Eclipse
- Solar mission
- Multiple LV = Different dynamic, shock, and acoustic environments

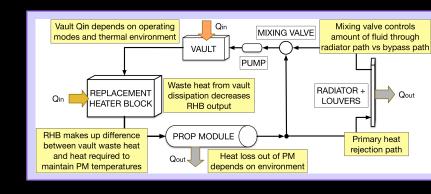


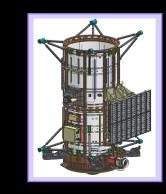
• Design for enveloping worst case (plus margin)





- Pumped fluid loop transports waste heat
- Radiator and sun shade for possible inner cruise













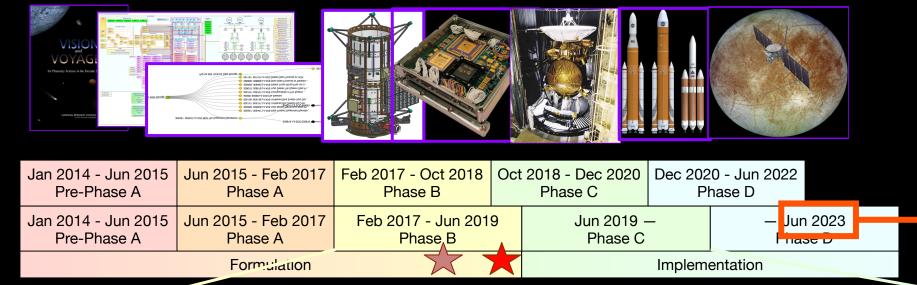
PROJECT STATUS



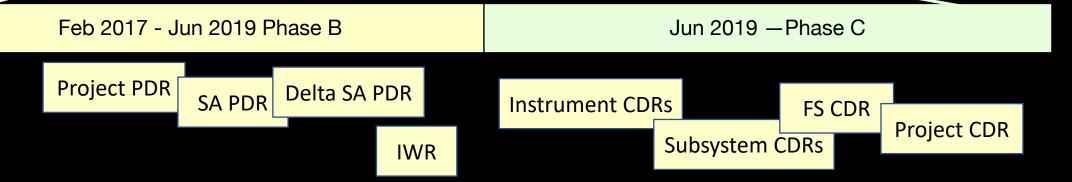


Where are we now





- Directed to work to 2023 Launch Date
- Replanning exercises
- Instrument schedules unchanged





Some Project Status



Feb 2017 - Jun 2019 Phase B Jun 2019 — Phase C MD Safety NAV **Systems** V&V LV PP SI&T MOS & FS **GDS**



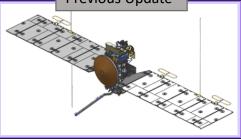


FS UPDATES



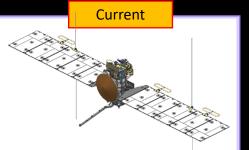


Previous Update



- 2550 kg FS Dry mass
- Payload Mass (Alloc): 380 kg
- 348 Ah Battery
- ➤ 86 m² Solar Array area
- ➤ 5.1 TB Downlink capability



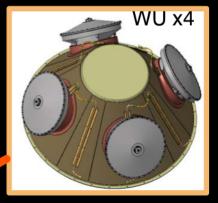


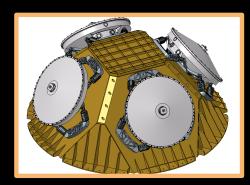
- ➤ 2670 kg FS Dry mass
- Payload Mass (Alloc): 408 kg
- 348 Ah Battery
- ➤ 102 m² Solar Array area
- > 5.3 TB Downlink capability

- · CM Offset Trade
- EIS Gimbal System Update
- PIMS Cover Removal
- SLS Block 1B Removal
- PIMS Electronics Move
- EIS Cross-Strapping Removal
- MISE Bipod to Frame
- 2 PSSs added; last thermostats removed (on prop module)

- RWA Isolators Added
- REASON heaters removed
- ICEMAG Heater Services Added
- E-THEMIS Radiator Design
- MASPEX & SUDA Swap
- Vault Configuration Updates
- Third LGA Added for Launch
- SSIRU Trade (1 vs 2)
- ICEMAG Electronics Location Trade



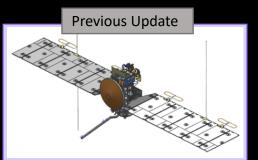












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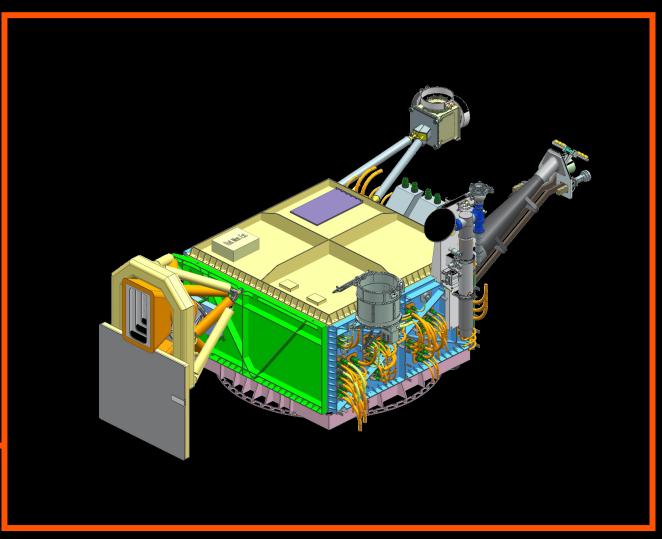


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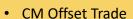
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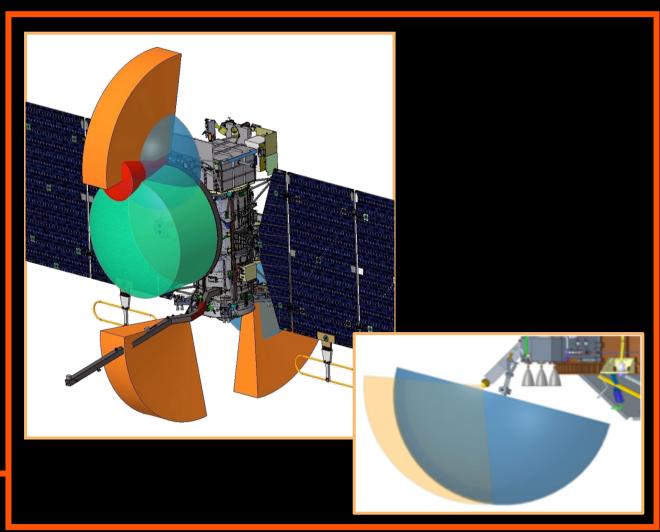


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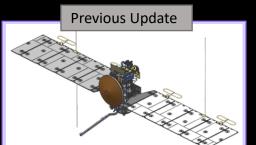
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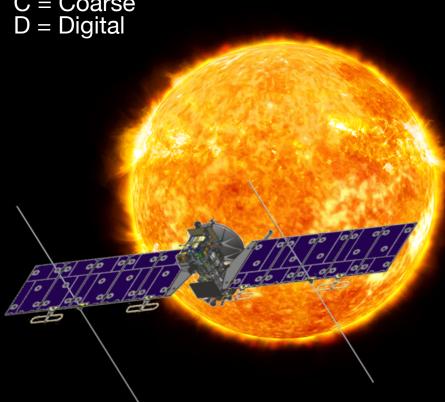


Trade: CSS/DSS (1)



"SS" = Sun Sensor

C = Coarse



- Primarily use SRUs and SSIRUs for attitude estimation
 Sun sensors: launch, sanity check, during specific faults
 - Fault Protection: Don't have problems. But if there is a problem, get to a powerpositive, thermally safe state and phone home
 - Thermal & Telecom need accurate pointing in this situation (Thermal: don't get too hot; Telecom: sufficient comms rates)
 - Power & Thermal need "fast" recovery (Thermal: don't overheat; Power: don't drain the battery before becoming power positive again)

Sunsearch

How fast can we find the sun How fast can we point to it Don't point sensitive elements at the sun When we get there: how accurately can we stay sun pointed

Sunpoint

Thermally protected Antenna position known for telecom Safely generate power

What is CSS? PV cell that detects sun direction (generates current). Complexity = sun detected on multiple cells; robustness to loss of cell

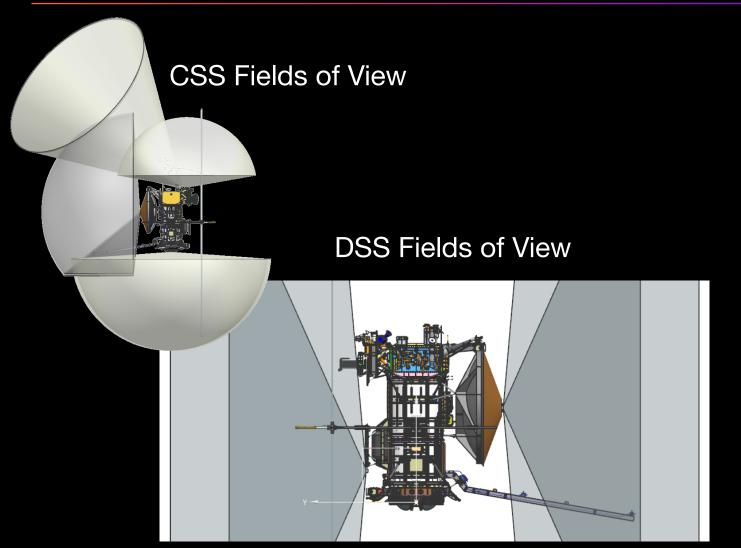
DSS = angle determination done in single unit (row of solar cells)

Problems with CSS: couldn't get needed accuracy for base comms rates (& threat of not meeting sun point accuracy needed for thermal safety); not tolerant to albedo (tricked by bright bodies)= inhibit sun search in flyby; sun search algorithm complicated due to CSS limitations → software and testing cost & complexity; possibly too slow in worst case



Trade: CSS/DSS (2)



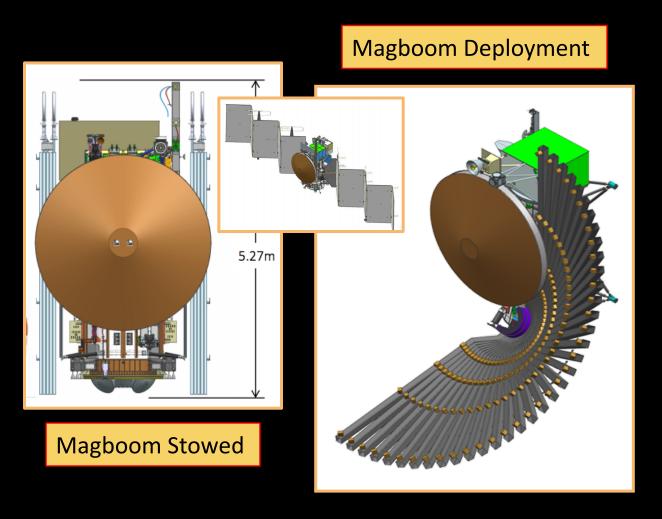


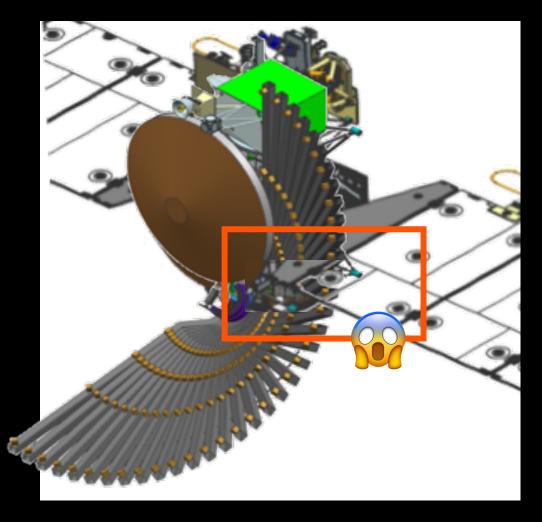
- Slew faster = increased propellant use & unintended delta-v
- Considering compliance by relaxing requirements & constraints (such as increased prop use, less robustness, etc)
- DSS put system back into requirements compliance & provide margin, robustness to accuracy and sun search duration



Trade: Magboom Deployment









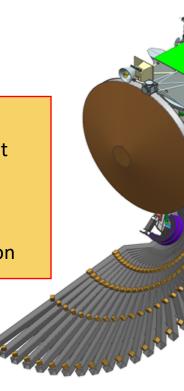
Trade: Magboom Deployment



- Driving concerns:
 - Magboom and SA should never occupy the same space & time
 - Safe deployment (no damage)
 - Visibility into deployment status (especially for fault cases)
- Initial Telemetry:
 - Restraints released
 - Final location reached
 - Health Status
- Improved Telemetry:
 - Restraint release OR assessment of safe to actuate
 - Solar Array articulation region cleared
 - Deployment Completed
 - Boom position (about hinge) within +/- 5 degrees of actual
 - Current & Temperature status

Additional Capabilities:

- If SW resets, stop driving deployment
- Stop deployment if motor stalls
- Survive driving against hard stop
- Ability to drive boom backwards
- Echo back commanded drive direction







Solar Array Make/Buy

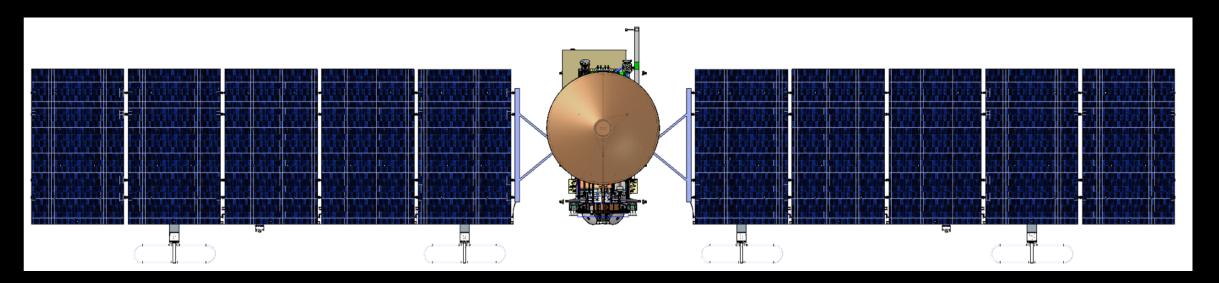


• Was:

- Make Solar Array in-house
- Observed delaminations after exposure to radiation and flight-like cryogenic temperatures
- Investigation consumed schedule and threatened launch date

Is:

- Procure Solar Array from Airbus Defense and Space – Netherlands (ADSN)
- Leverage experience of vendor with specialty in SA systems
- Leverage recent solar cell and substrate development experience on ESA's JUICE project



REASON Accommodation

Subsequent Reviews Passed: Proj. PDR, SA PDR, SA Delta PDR, Integrated Wing Review



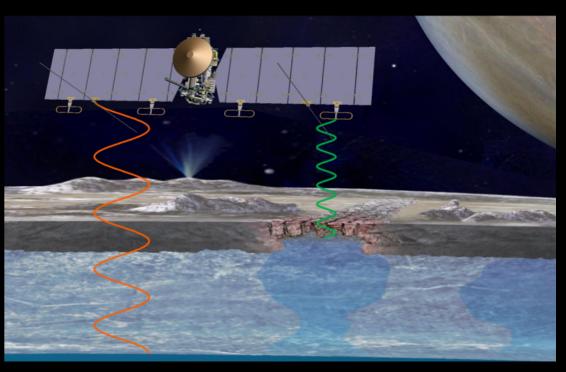


REASON Accommodation



Context:

- Decision made in March 2016 to accommodate REASON on the Solar Array (after trade of many accommodation options)
- While this is the best option, it is still very challenging
- Requirements
 - REASON: sufficiently predictable radar environment for REASON to perform science
 - Solar Array: can deploy and provide sufficient power over mission lifetime
- Review History
- IWR Success Criteria:
 - Design allows REASON to perform measurements necessary to achieve science objectives
 - Design modifications required to accommodate REASON are achievable: no unacceptable risk
 - Preliminary design satisfies requirements
 - Confidence in interface definition and maturation
 - Plans for open items are reasonable

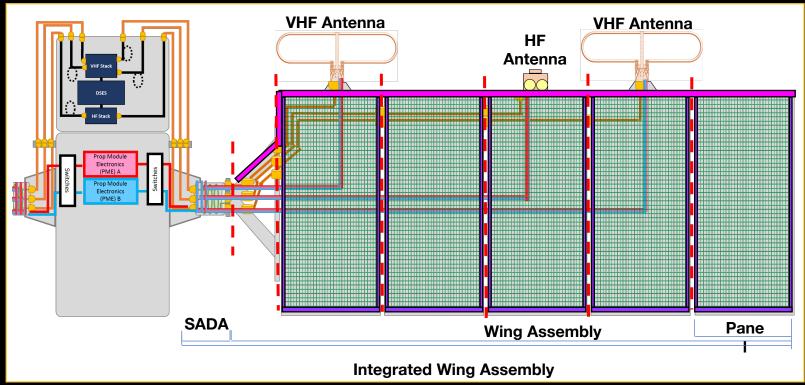




REASON Accommodation Challenges

Start SI&T





- Hinge torque
- Edge ground
- Signals through SADA
- Cables
 - Huge thermal range (-238 C to +180 C)
 - Segments
 - Radiation
 - Shielding (when necessary)

	IWR		4			1	PM CDR				SA CDR
Jan 19	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 19	May 19	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19	Dec 1
Jan 20	Feb 20	Mar 20	Proj. CDR	y 20	Jun 20	Jul 20	Aug 20	Sep 20	Oct 20	Nov 20	Dec 2
Jan 21	Feb 21	1 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21	Aug 21	Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 2
Sys Integr. Review		Start SI&T									

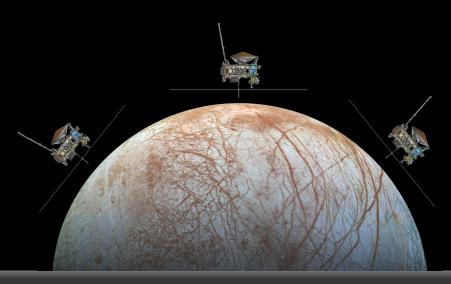


Future Work



Future Work

- Power Tiger Team
- Battery Resource Accommodation
- PCDA Accommodation
- Solar Array Side Swap
- Lightning Suppression Design

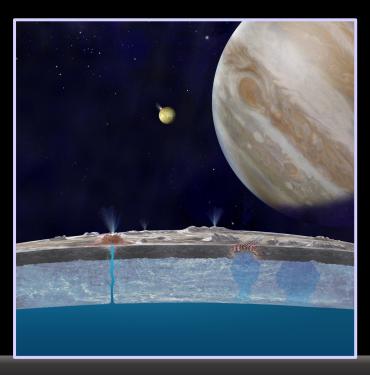


Future Work (2)

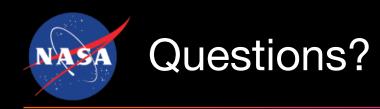
- Reaction Wheel Trade
- ELV & SLS IRD Updates
- SRU Orientation
- REASON Accommodation Requirements Update
- PIMS Charging
- Instrument PRTs for Robustness
- Voltage Drop Updates
- Contamination Control Updates
- Preferential Venting
- Power Allocations Update

SE & Reviews

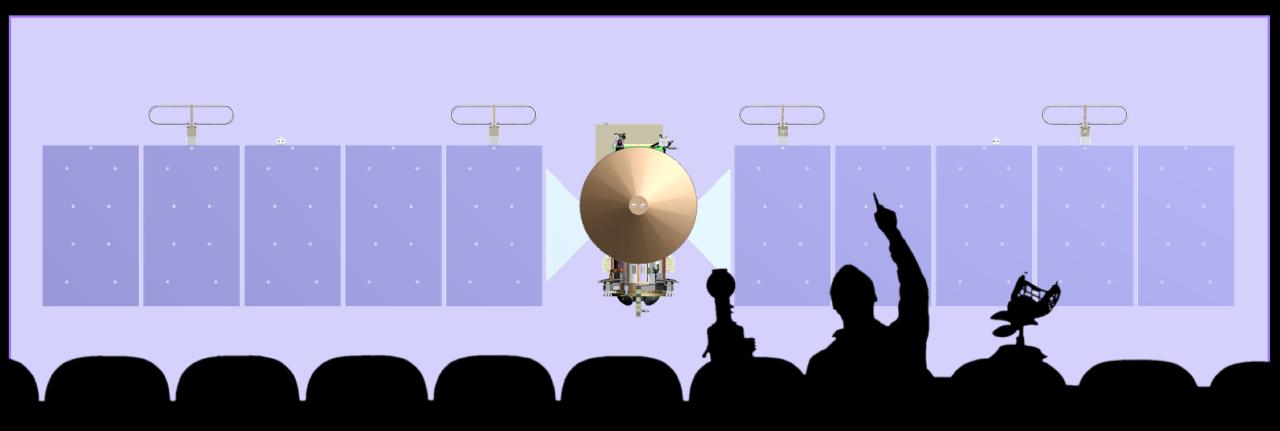
- Requirements Scrub
- V&V Ramp-up
- CDR Season

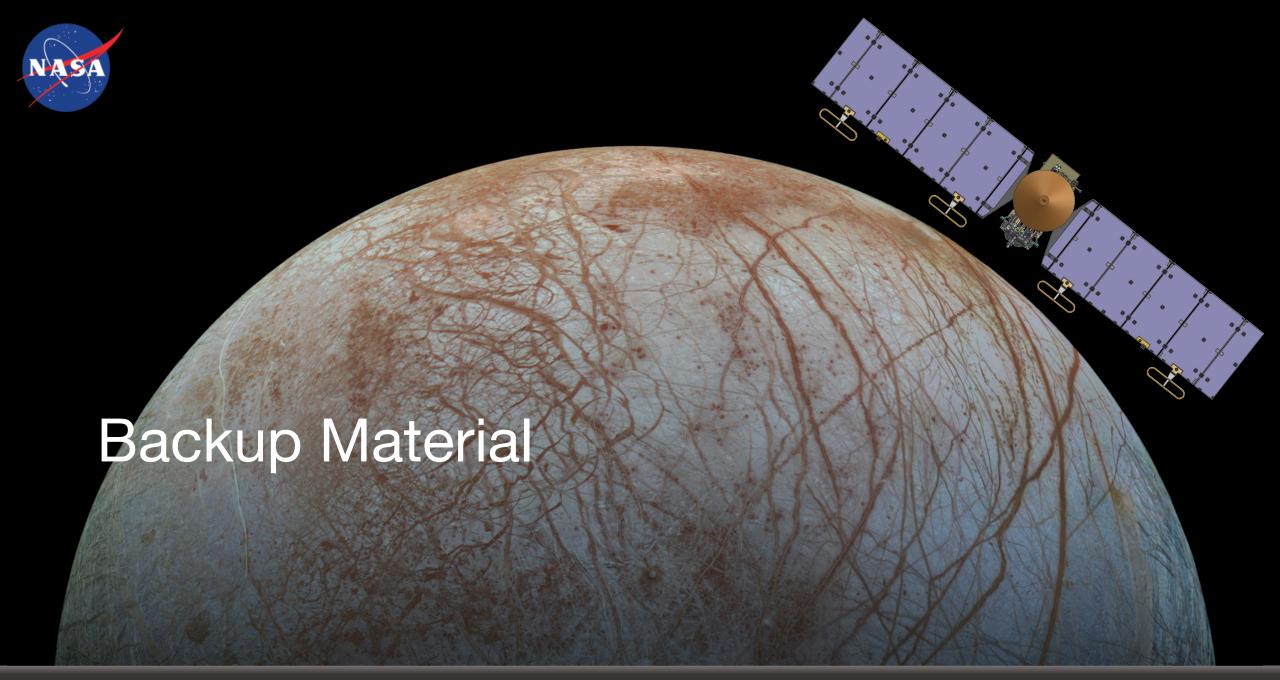










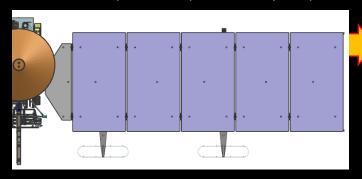


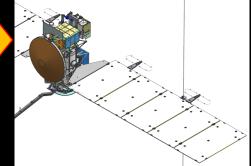


REASON / Solar Array Integration



SRR/MDR (Jan 2017) Baseline ("A5")





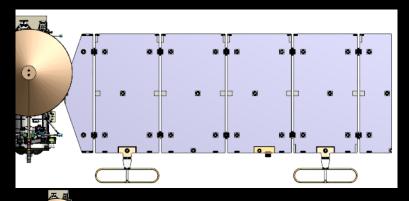
What: HF antenna moved to same side as VHF antenna

Why: Reduced complexity/mass of launch restraint architecture

New issues: unacceptable stresses on SA; need to reduce SA mass and inertia



FS PDR (Oct 2017) Baseline ("A7")



- 5-Panel Solar Array Compatibility Cells on Yoke

- What: HF and VHF antenna spacing updated (VHF) must be in center of panel; HF near center of panel)
- What: SA 5 panel → 4.5 panel
- Analysis: science, stresses, keep-out-zones
 - Further work on interface properties:
 - cabling on SA
 - Solar array edge ground feature
 - Conductivity/resistance constraints
 - Loads, mass, other dynamics



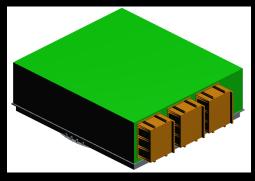




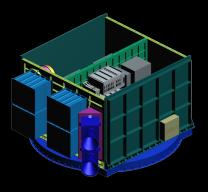


Vault Configuration

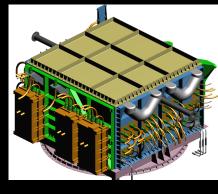




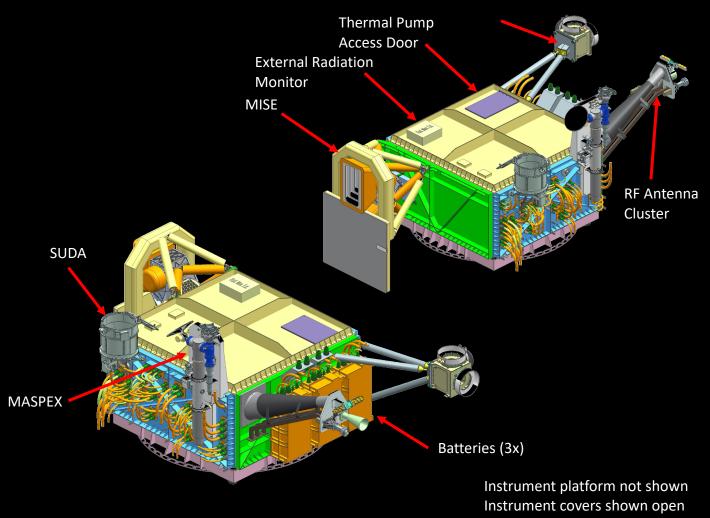
"Pancake" Vault



Center Panel Vault



"+/-Z" Vault





Europa: Ingredients for Life?



Water:

- Probable saltwater ocean, indicated by surface geology and magnetic field
- Possible lakes within the ice shell, produced by local melting

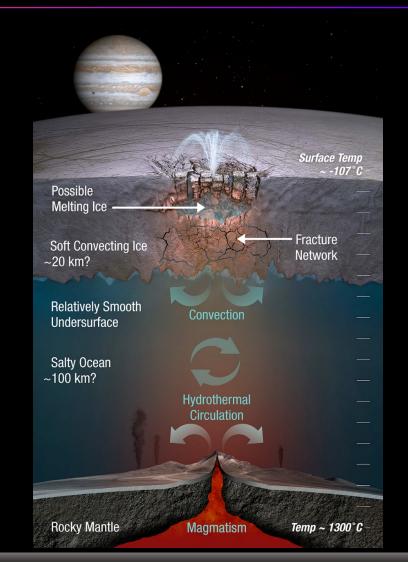
Chemistry:

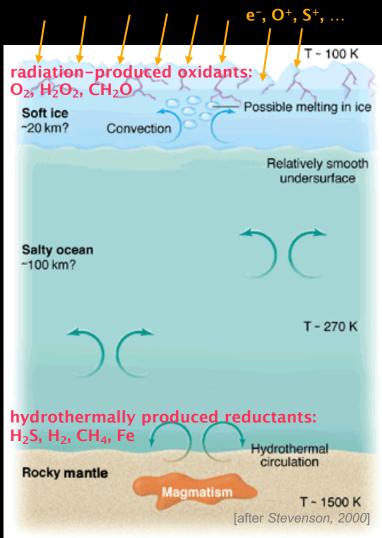
- Ocean in direct contact with mantle rock, promoting chemical leaching
- Dark red surface materials contain salts, probably from the ocean

• Energy:

- Chemical energy could sustain life
 - · Surface irradiation creates oxidants
 - Mantle tidal heating could create reductants
- Geological activity would "stir the pot"

The planned Europa mission would test habitability hypotheses

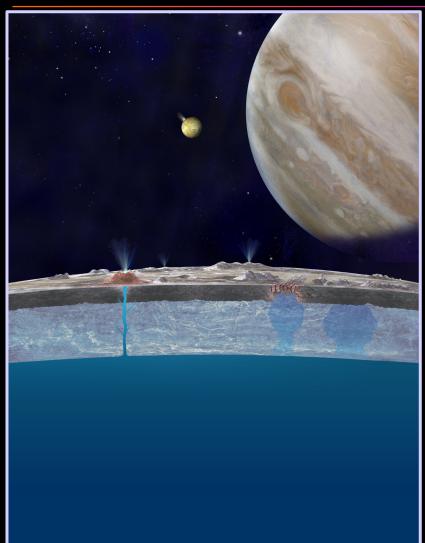




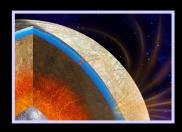


What are we looking at?





- In Situ investigations:
 - Detect and analyze composition of Europa's thin atmosphere
 - Detect and analyze particles originating on Europa's surface
 - Measure magnetic fields
 - Measure density, flow, and energy of ions and electrons
- Remote Sensing investigations
 - Look below the surface (ice shell and ocean sounding)
 - Image the surface
 - Locate and characterize plumes
 - Analyze composition of surface (organics, acid hydrates, salts)
 - Search for thermal anomalies (plumes, venting, resurfacing)
 - Assess possible landing sites (for potential future mission)







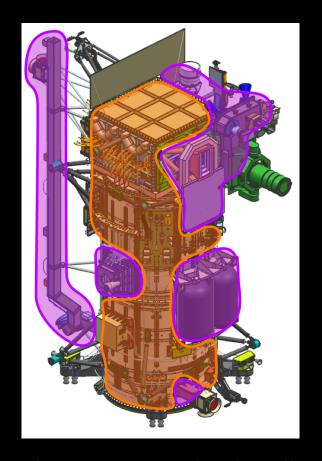




Thermal System Architecture



- Thermal Challenge: minimize energy usage at Jupiter; survive hot inner cruise
- HRS (orange)
 - "R" = rejection, reclamation, reuse
 - Reuse dissipation heat from vault to heat Prop components
 - Pumped fluid loop + replacement heater block
 - Thermal Radiator
 - Covers majority SC components
- Active thermal control (purple)
 - For non-loop elements
 - Instrument interfaces (majority)
 - Some propulsion components
 - Sun sensors, solar array deployment components, radiator, etc
- Passive control (blankets, coatings, etc)



Concept: thermally isolated zones controlled with traditional closed-loop or thermostat heater circuits

Not shown:

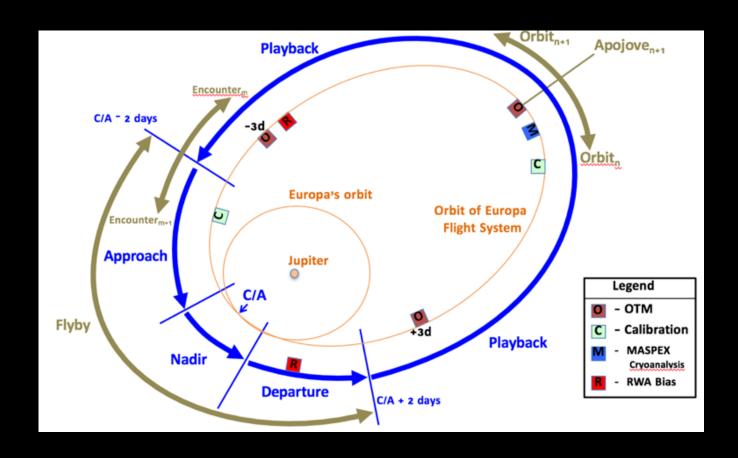
- Solar Array Hardware
- Thermal Radiator
- REASON (on SA)

This is a cartoon sketch to illustrate the HRS/active concept



Phases of an Encounter

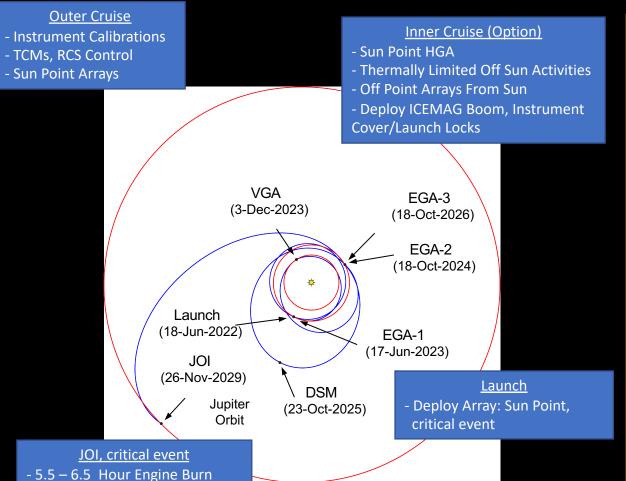


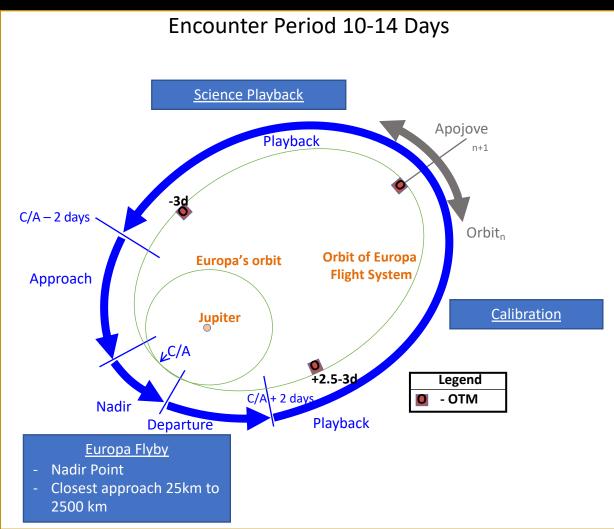




Operating Modes During Mission Timeline



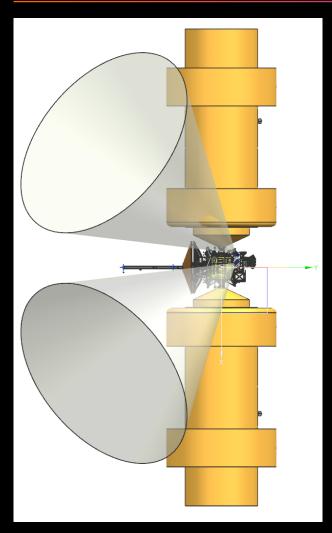






SA Updates: Impacts





SRU / SA Gimbal Envelop (Inner VHF Antenna)